HORROR TALES

PDC
NOV
1970
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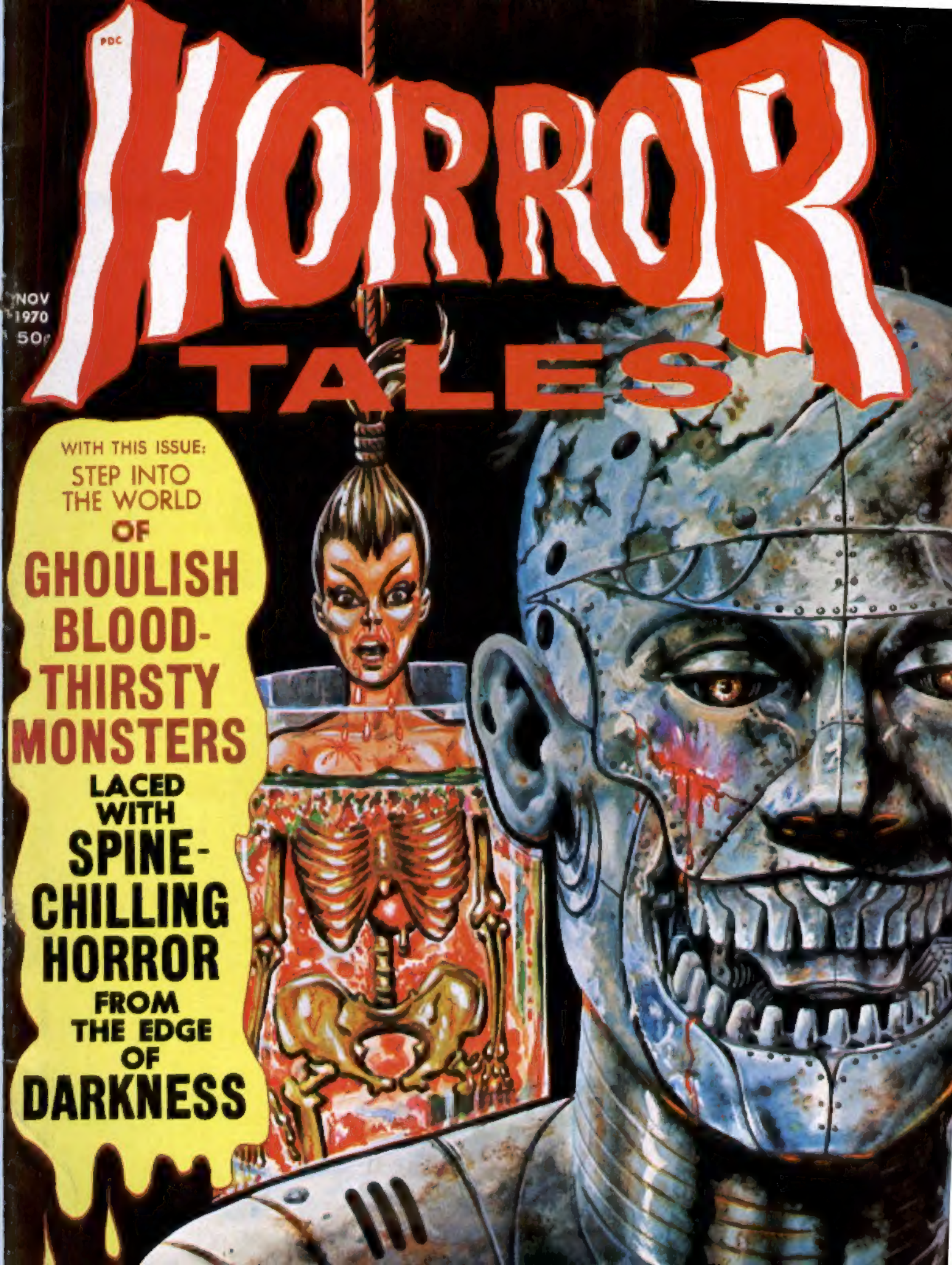
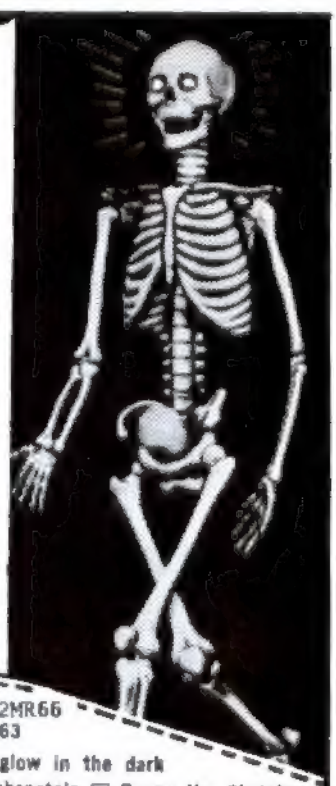
WITH THIS ISSUE:
STEP INTO THE WORLD OF
GHOULISH BLOOD-THIRSTY MONSTERS
LACED WITH
SPINE-CHILLING HORROR
FROM THE EDGE OF
DARKNESS



MONSTER S-I-Z-E MONSTERS



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HORROR TALES

CONTENTS FOR NOVEMBER 1970 VOL. 2, NO. 6

DEADMAN'S GHOST 4

Journey into superstition where deadmen turn into ghosts! Ye-ech!

WALK THE EDGE OF DARKNESS 11

Locked in her brain as she raced to her doom was the Thing from another world. Help!

NIGHT OF TERROR 18

An envelope of horror trapped an innocent couple in a reign of terror! C'mon, put that ax down!

VAMPIRES 23

Fetid mists hang like shrouds as demons moan and fangs sink deep into soft flesh! Hey, that smarts!

GREEN HORROR 28

Its spiked arms embraced the woman it loved and . . . Stop! Leave that girl alone!

WEB OF THE WIDOW 33

She waited quietly, certain she would be gorging the half-rotted being caught in her web. Gulp! Burp.

ZOMBIE VENGEANCE 39

A strange voodoo ritual raises the dead from their smelly graves in a bloody saga of revenge.

THE WITCH'S CURSE 45

An evil tale of a witch-burning that spanned centuries. Ugh!

CARL BURGOS, Editor IRVING FASS, Art Director
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SINGLE-COPY PRICE 35¢. APPLICATION TO MAIL AT SECOND-CLASS RATES IS PENDING AT NEW YORK, N. Y. PRINTED IN U.S.A.

THIS STORY OF ANIMAL WORSHIP, SUPERNATURAL TERROR TAKES US THIS TIME FAR INTO DARKEST AFRICA WHERE SUPERSTITIONS WEAVE A SPELL OF HORROR AND DEATH! COME WITH US ON THIS JOURNEY AND SEE HOW ONE MAN'S GREED AND SELFISHNESS CAUSES THE LION'S REVENGE!

DEADMAN'S GHOST

OUR STORY OPENS AT THE BOWEN MANUFACTURING CO. WHERE AN IMPORTANT MEETING IS BEING HELD...

I'VE CHOSEN LEONARD WEBSTER TO MAKE THE TRIP FOR THE COMPANY! BE IN MY OFFICE IN AN HOUR, WEBSTER!
YES, SIR!

AN HOUR LATER...
... ALL I'VE BEEN ABLE TO FIND OUT SO FAR IS THAT THE HEAD WAS MADE BY A TRIBE CALLED THE SUMACS! IT WILL BE YOUR JOB TO LOCATE THEM AND GET THE DYE PROCESS!
I'LL DO MY BEST, SIR!

AND SO IT WAS THAT TWO WEEKS LATER FOUND LEONARD WEBSTER REGISTERING IN A HOTEL IN NIAROBI, AFRICA...

NO... I WON'T BE STAYING LONG... JUST LONG ENOUGH TO GET SOME INFORMATION...
YES, SIR!

LEONARD WONDERED WHO THE PRETTY GIRL WAS!
OOPS! OH, I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, MISS!
OH... IT'S ALL RIGHT...
REGIST

ALTHOUGH ON A BUSINESS TRIP, LEONARD HAD NEVER BEEN ONE TO OVERLOOK A PRETTY FACE! AND SO, TEN MINUTES LATER...
... AND YOU'VE SPENT ALL YOUR LIFE IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD?
YES, DAD WAS A GUIDE FOR SAFARIS! I WAS BORN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE KIWABI REGION!

THE KIWABI REGION! THAT'S WHERE I'M HEADED FOR NOW! I HOPE TO BE ABLE TO FIND THE SUMAC TRIBE... EVER HEARD OF THEM?
YES... ER, I MEAN I KNOW OF THEM! BUT THEY'RE VERY DANGEROUS WITH MYSTERIOUS POWERS!

LEONARD SENSED THAT DIANE FOREST SEEMED HESITANT ABOUT DISCUSSING THE SUMAC TRIBE... AND SO HE DECIDED TO PROCEED SLOWLY! THAT NIGHT HE TOOK HER DANCING...
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO TELL YOU! WHEN YOU ASKED ME ABOUT THE SUMACS THIS AFTERNOON I PRETENDED NOT TO KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE TRIBE! BUT NOW THAT I KNOW WHAT KIND OF A MAN YOU ARE, I WILL HELP YOU!
THE INFORMATION SHE GAVE HIM WAS TO UNLOCK THE SECRET DOOR OF THE SUMACS TO HIM...
THE SUMACS BELIEVE THEY ARE REINCARNATED INTO ANIMALS! ONLY ONE WHITE MAN HAS RETURNED FROM THERE IN THE PAST FIFTY YEARS... AND THAT WAS MY FATHER! WITH MY HELP YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE THE SUMACS!
TWO DAYS LATER, DIANE HAD LED LEONARD INTO THE KIWABI REGION... THE REGION OF THE SUMAC TRIBE...
I... I THOUGHT YOU SAID THEY WERE FRIENDLY! THEY DON'T LOOK HAPPY TO SEE US!
THAT'S BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW WHY WE'RE HERE! WHEN TOA LUNA SEES ME EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT!
LINIBI LAI HAVNU KIONTO!
SEE, LEONARD! HE DOES REMEMBER ME! KIONTO WACUTI CHIEF!

USING DIANE AS INTERPRETER, LEONARD WAS ABLE TO TELL TOA LUNA THE PURPOSE OF HIS MISSION...

WHAT DID HE SAY, DIANE?

HE SAYS HE'LL TEACH YOU THE DYE PROCESS! BUT YOU MUST NOT DISTURB THEIR DEAD!

AND SO BEGAN LEONARD'S SUCCESS! FOR DAYS HE STUDIED THE COMPLICATED PROCESS OF THE SECRET DYE...

THEN A NATIVE DIED.. AND THE SUMAC'S BURIED HIM!

WHAT'S GOING ON, DIANE? WHY DO THE NATIVES CARRY ANIMAL HEADS NEXT TO THE DEAD MAN'S BODY?

THEY BELIEVE THE DEAD DON'T DIE... INSTEAD THEY ARE REINCARNATED INTO ANIMALS! THE DEAD MAN IS ALWAYS BURIED WITH THREE ANIMAL HEADS DIPPED INTO THE SECRET DYE... AND GIVEN A DIAMOND!

GOOD LORD! THOSE ARE UNCUT DIAMONDS IN THOSE HEADS!

HOW RIDICULOUS! HA, HA! MEN TURNING INTO ANIMALS! INDEED!

DON'T LAUGH, LEONARD! HERE MANY STRANGE THINGS HAVE HAPPENED... THE DIAMONDS ARE TO PAY THE WAY OF THE DEAD UNTIL THEY RETURN...

AS LEONARD AND DIANE PARTOOK OF DINNER WITH TOA LUNA...

DIANE, YOU SAID THAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF YOUR FATHER, NO WHITE MAN HAD BEEN HERE IN FIFTY YEARS! WHAT WAS THE REASON? I'LL BET IT HAD TO DO WITH THOSE DIAMONDS...

I DON'T KNOW, LEONARD... I'LL ASK TOA...

INSTEAD OF ANSWERING THE QUESTION, TOA LUNA SHOOK HIS HEAD AND INDICATED THAT AFTER THE MEAL HE WOULD "SHOW" THEM THE REASON...

THAT LOOKS LIKE THE ENTRANCE TO A MYSTERIOUS TEMPLE!

KINO NOP RAINO MEBU PIUFO!

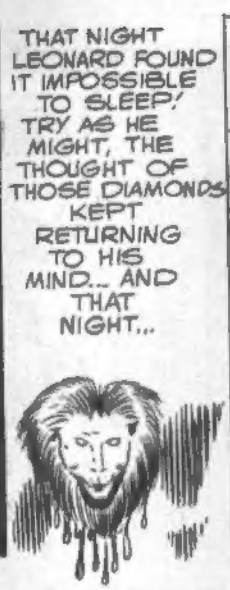
HE SAYS THEIR DEAD ARE BURIED HERE!

WITHIN A FEW MINUTES LEONARD SAW A SIGHT THAT WOULD CHANGE THE COURSE OF HIS ENTIRE LIFE...

DIAMONDS! GOOD LORD, DIANE! LOOK AT THEM! HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN DIAMONDS!

HE SAYS THE DIAMONDS ARE FOR THE DEAD!

HE SAYS ALL THE WHITES BUT FATHER HAVE TRIED TO MOLEST THEIR DEAD AND IT IS FOR THAT REASON THAT ALL WHITE MEN HAVE BEEN KEPT OUT! HE TRUSTS YOU!


THAT NIGHT LEONARD FOUND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SLEEP! TRY AS HE MIGHT, THE THOUGHT OF THOSE DIAMONDS KEPT RETURNING TO HIS MIND... AND THAT NIGHT...

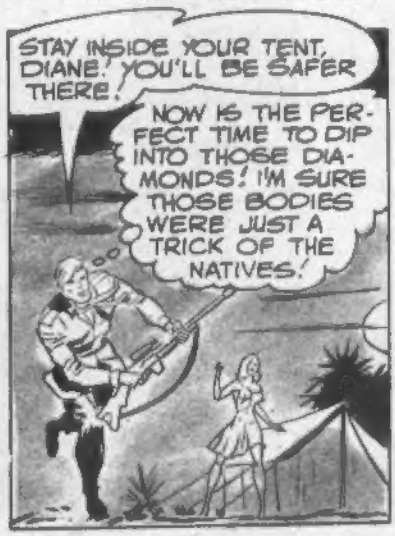
THOSE STONES, JUST A FEW POCKETFULS OF THEM WOULD MAKE ANY MAN A MILLIONAIRE! I'M GOING TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK INTO THAT TEMPLE!

WHEN LEONARD REACHED THE TEMPLE...
THEY WOULDN'T EVEN MISS A FEW STONES...
W-WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

GO BACK, LEONARD WEBSTER! LET OUR BODIES BE A WARNING TO YOU! WE TRIED TO STEAL THE DIAMONDS... AND THIS HAPPENED TO US!

FEAR TOOK COMPLETE CONTROL OF LEONARD'S BODY! IN AN INSTANT HE HAD FLED FROM THE TEMPLE AND WAS BACK NEAR HIS TENT! THERE HE MET DIANE...
OH, HELLO, DIANE! I...I COULDN'T SLEEP! I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THOSE DIA... I MEAN, THINKING ABOUT YOU!
LEONARD... NOW THAT YOU KNOW THE SECRET OF THE DYE, WE MUST LEAVE!

BUT LEONARD HAD GOTTEN OVER HIS SCARE BY NOW! FOR DAYS HE BROODED OVER WAYS OF OBTAINING SOME OF THE DIAMONDS. THEN...
WHAT'S WRONG, DIANE?
OH, LEONARD, IT'S HORRIBLE: THERE'S A WILD LION IN THE VILLAGE! THEY SAY IT'S A CHIEF KILLED BEFORE HIS TIME, RETURNED FOR VENGEANCE!


BUT LEONARD DIDN'T THINK IT HORRIBLE AT ALL... IN FACT HE WAS PLEASED.
STAY INSIDE YOUR TENT, DIANE! YOU'LL BE SAFER THERE!
NOW IS THE PERFECT TIME TO DIP INTO THOSE DIAMONDS! I'M SURE THOSE BODIES WERE JUST A TRICK OF THE NATIVES!

I'LL STUFF EVERY POCKET I'VE GOT! EVEN THE BOTTOMS OF MY SHOES...
LEONARD WEBSTER WILL BE A MILLIONAIRE!

BUT BEFORE LEONARD COULD FIRE AT THE CHIEFTAIN, ANOTHER LION APPEARED...

IT WAS OVER IN A MATTER OF SECONDS! AS TOA LUNA'S BROKEN BODY FELL DEAD ON THE FLOOR, LEONARD FIRED THE RIFLE...

BUT AS LEONARD TURNED BACK TO HIS PILFERING, HE WAS ONCE AGAIN INTERRUPTED...
OH, DIANE! HOW DID YOU FIND ME, DARLING? I WAS TRYING TO SAVE TOA LUNA'S LIFE AND...
DON'T LIE TO ME, LEONARD! I WAS STANDING OUTSIDE... I HEARD WHAT HAPPENED... Y-YOU MURDERER!

OH, HE'S ONLY A SAVAGE... COME AWAY WITH ME...
I... I'M GOING TO TELL THE NATIVES!

OH, BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TELL ANYONE, DIANE... I'M TAKING...
THE BODY! TOA LUNA'S BODY... IT'S MOVING!

SO WHAT! GHOSTS DON'T FRIGHTEN ME! IT'S ALL A BUNCH OF STUPID SUPERSTITIONS! NO, DIANE, NOTHING WILL STOP ME!

H... HE'S TURNING INTO A LION! T-THE NATIVE SUPERSTITION IS TRUE!
W-WHAT! GOOD LORD... NO! NO!

WITHIN AN INSTANT THE TRANSFORMATION WAS COMPLETED... AND LEONARD BECAME DEAD WHITE MAN NO. 21! DIANE COULD HEAR HIS SCREAMS AS SHE FLED BACK TO THE VILLAGE!

ONCE AGAIN QUIET REIGNS IN THE KIWABI REGION... THE SUMAC TRIBE STILL MAINTAINS ITS SECRET... AND THE LION HAS HAD ITS REVENGE!
THE END

SHE HAD COME TO THE END OF THE TRAIL... THERE WAS NOTHING TO DO BUT...
WALK THE EDGE OF DARKNESS
LOUELLA KELLNER ENTERED THE BOARD ROOM OF THE STATE HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, STARING AHEAD WITHOUT INTEREST! THE BOARD MEMBERS MEANT NOTHING TO HER! SHE HEARD THE DOCTOR SPEAKING.
TAKE A CHAIR, MISS KELLNER!
MISS KELLNER! TO BEGIN WITH, YOU STILL ARE THE WARD OF NICHOLAS VICTOR, WHO WAS APPOINTED YOUR GUARDIAN BY THE WILL OF YOUR FATHER, WILLIAM KELLNER!
WHO BEFORE HIS DEATH WAS THE BUSINESS PARTNER OF NICHOLAS VICTOR!

SHE SCARCELY LISTENED AS THE FACELESS ONE DRONED ON! YET EVERY INCIDENT WAS ETCHED IN HER MEMORY BEGINNING AT THE AGE OF TWELVE AT THE VICTOR HOME...
UNGRATEFUL CHILD, STOP THAT SNIVELING! BE GLAD THAT WE TOOK YOU IN... DEPENDENT ON OUR CARE!
OUCH! NO! MY ARM! STOP IT! JUNIOR, PLEASE!
LIVING AT THE VICTOR HOME WAS BAD ENOUGH, BUT WHEN JUNIOR VICTOR WAS HOME, IT WAS A HUNDRED TIMES WORSE...
YOU HEARD DAD SAY TO STOP YOUR BLUBBERING AND CRYING!
IT WAS ALL UNBEARABLE, UNTIL ONE DAY...
I'M TOM LOOMIS! MY FATHER'S THE NEW GARDENER HERE! GOSH, YOU'RE PRETTY! DOES YOUR FATHER WORK HERE?
OH, YES...IN THE KITCHEN!
IT WAS A LOVE AFFAIR EVENTUALLY, BEGINNING AS SIMPLY AS THAT, BUT IT WOULD COME TO A CLIMAX THAT NEITHER COULD FORESEE...
YOUR FOLKS DON'T WORK HERE! YOU LIVE IN THE MAIN HOUSE, LOUELLA!
I WAS SO AFRAID!
TOM WENT AWAY TO COLLEGE! THEN LOUELLA WAS TERRIBLY LONELY! BUT HE RETURNED AND THE WORLD SMILED AGAIN! THEN TOM'S FATHER DIED...
I'M GLAD OF ONE THING... I'VE TAKEN OVER DAD'S JOB TO BE NEAR YOU! YOU SEE... I LOVE YOU!
OH... TOM!

LOUELLA'S HEART SANG... AND WITH THEIR KISS THAT NIGHT THEY PLEDGED THEIR TROTH
TOM, I DON'T KNOW.. YOU'RE A COLLEGE MAN! MY GUARDIAN HAS GIVEN ME AS LITTLE SCHOOLING AS THE LAW PERMITS! SUPPOSE I DISGRACE YOU?
YOU DISGRACE ME, DARLING? MAY I ONLY DESERVE SUCH DISGRACE EVERY DAY!
IT WAS THEN THAT NICHOLAS VICTOR CAME UPON THEM...
YOU TWO! UNGRATEFUL TO THE HAND THAT FEEDS YOU!
FURIOUS WITH RAGE, THE GUARDIAN RAISES HIS HAND TO STRIKE LOUELLA, BUT...
PUT ONE HAND ON HER AND I'LL KNOCK YOU DOWN, SIR!
GET OUT OF HERE, YOU'RE FIRED!
LOUELLA REMEMBERED RUNNING TO HER ROOM IN TERROR AND LOCKING HERSELF IN...
OH TOM WHY DID IT HAVE TO HAPPEN?
THAT NIGHT JUNIOR RETURNED HOME IN A VICIOUS STATE OF OVER-INDULGENCE! BUT HIS FATHER'S WORDS SOON SOBERED HIM UP...
JUNIOR...THE TIME HAS COME FOR YOU TO COURT LOUELLA! I WANT YOU TWO TO MARRY!
HER? THAT SCULLERY MAID!
THERE IS SOMETHING I'VE NEVER TOLD YOU OR HER, MY BOY! SHE IS RIGHTFUL HEIR TO OUR BUSINESS AND I'M THE TRUSTEE! BUT SHE WILL BE TWENTY-ONE IN TWO YEARS! GET IT?
SURE... YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE AN ACCOUNTING! BUT WITH HER AS MY WIFE, IT WON'T MEAN ANYTHING!

AFTER THEIR MEETING FATHER AND SON GREW SUDDENLY DEVOTED TO LOUELLA! THEN, ONE DAY...
TOM LOOMIS WENT INTO THE CITY TO HUNT FOR A JOB! ONE DARK NIGHT AS HE WAS RETURNIN TO HIS ROOMING HOUSE... DEATH SPRUNG FROM THE SHADOWS...
AND MY DEAR, WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN DEVOTED TO YOU! YOU'D HAVE PRESTIGE... MONEY...
I TELL YOU I LOVE TOM LOOMIS AND HE IS THE ONE I WILL MARRY!
AT THAT SAME INSTANT...
TOM! HE'S KILLED YOU! KILLED YOU!
OF COURSE BOTH VICTOR AND HIS SON HAD UNIMPEACHABLE ALIBIS!
BUT I SAW IT CLEARLY IN MY DREAM! SOB! I SAW IT!
COME, MY CHILD.. WE WILL GO HOME!
ABSURD! GENTLEMEN, MY WARD IS OVER WROUGHT!
I KNOW HE KILLED TOM! HE KILLED HIM BECAUSE I WOULDN'T MARRY JUNIOR! I WAS IN LOVE WITH TOM!

AFTER THE INCIDENT NICHOLAS VICTOR LOST NO TIME...
MY DEAR, IT WAS MEANT FOR YOU TO MARRY JUNIOR! THINK WHAT IT WILL MEAN!
YOU KILLED TOM TO GET YOUR WAY! I HATE YOU BOTH! I WON'T MARRY HIM!
DO YOU REALIZE, THAT AS YOUR GUARDIAN, I CAN HAVE YOU PLACED IN AN INSANE ASYLUM, ON THE STRENGTH OF WHAT YOU HAVE SAID PUBLICLY!
OH, NO!
ALL AT ONCE LOUELLA STOPPED FIGHTING! THERE WAS NO LONGER ANYTHING TO LIVE FOR! AND SO PLANS FOR THE WEDDING WENT AHEAD!
ON HIS WEDDING EVE, JUNIOR CELEBRATED WITH THE BOYS, WHEN THEY DUMPED HIM OUT AT HIS DOOR, HE WAS IN BAD CONDITION...
HA! HA!
LEMME IN! LEMME IN! D'YA HEAR?
LOUELLA HEARD JUNIOR'S SHOUTING AND WENT DIRECTLY DOWN THE STAIRS...
THEN SUDDENLY...
LEMME IN! NO! NO! ARRGGH!

I HEARD SOMEONE SHOUT WHAT IS IT, LOUELLA?
IT'S JUNIOR... HE'S DEAD!
AFTER THE SHOCK, A SENSE OF WELL BEING CAME OVER LOUELLA... A SENSE OF BEING SAFE...
GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY! LOOK AT THAT CHILD! COULD THOSE TINY HANDS OF LOUELLA KELLNER HAVE BROKEN THE NECK OF HER FIANCE? I ASK YOU?
LOUELLA WAS ACCUSED AND TRIED FOR JUNIOR'S MURDER...
SINCE YOU DENY YOU MURDERED YOUR FIANCE, PERHAPS YOU CAN TELL THE COURT WHO DID SINCE YOU WERE AT THE SCENE!
OF COURSE... TOM LOOMIS KILLED JUNIOR VICTOR!
LOUELLA WAS FOUND NOT GUILTY OF MURDER! BUT HER TESTIMONY WAS SUFFICENT FOR NICHOLAS TO HAVE HER COMMITTED TO THE STATE HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE! AND HIMSELF APPOINTED HER CONSERVATOR! AND NOW...
YOU HAVE BEEN ADJUDGED CURED, MISS KELLNER! WE ARE RETURNING YOU TO YOUR GUARDIAN!

YOU ARE VERY FORTUNATE YOUR GUARDIAN HAS NOW OFFERED YOU MARRIAGE IN THE HOPE OF HELPING YOU FORGET!
IT IS MY MONEY HE WANTS! BUT IT DOES NOT MATTER! NOTHING MAKES ANY DIFFERENCE! WHEN DO I LEAVE?
SHE TOOK A PLANE THAT EVENING! BESIDE HER RODE AN ATTENDANT WHO WAS A FACELESS AS THE OTHERS AT THE HOSPITAL!
THIS IS A FAR MORE PLEASANT WORLD HERE!
ALL OF A SUDDEN LOUELLA LEANED BACK AND SMILED...
I HAVE SUCH A SENSE OF WELL BEING! I'M SO HAPPY! OH, TOM!
AND AT THIS TIME IN ANOTHER PART OF THE STATE A STRANGE THING HAPPENED...
...WHICH WAS REPORTED -- BUT NOT EXPLAINED... IN THE MORNING PAPERS!
STEWARDESS! FIND A DOCTOR, PLEASE!
THIS WOMAN IS DEAD!
SNAP
CRCK
N DAILY
NICHOLAS VICTOR MURDERED ON WAY TO AIRPORT
NECK BROKEN IN 3 PLACES
BODY FOUND IN OWN CAR ON EAST
THE END

IT STARTED WITH A SIMPLE LITTLE QUARREL AND ENDED IN FEAR AND HORROR! THE OLD HOUSE MIGHT HAVE BEEN WAITING TO POUNCE, LIKE SOME PREHISTORIC MONSTER, ON THE ILL-FATED COUPLE! SO IF IT'S THRILLS AND CHILLS YOU WANT, IF YOUR BLOOD NEEDS CURDLING, READ ON! IF YOU DARE! FOR THIS IS THE STORY OF **THE MURDEROUS JOKE...**

Night of TERROR

SUE AND JOHN TRENT ARE HAVING A VIOLENT QUARREL...

SO A FEW MINUTES LATER...

BUT WHEN SUE GOES UP TO PACK, JOHN GETS AN IDEA OF HIS OWN AND CALLS A FRIEND...
HELLO! MORRIS? THIS IS JOHN TRENT! SAY, I WANT YOU TO DO ME A FAVOR! I'VE HAD A FIGHT WITH SUE AND I WANT TO TEACH HER A LESSON! YOU KNOW THAT OLD HAUNTED HOUSE ON THE COLD SPRING ROAD? WELL, LISTEN...

HAH-HAH! SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD IDEA, JOHN! YES, I'LL DO IT, GLAD TO! HAH-HAH! WE'LL REALLY GIVE HER A GOOD SCARE! OKAY, THEN! I'LL SEE YOU THERE!

HAH-HAH! JOHN SURE HAS GOT A SENSE OF HUMOR! AND THIS WILL MAKE HIM LOOK LIKE A HERO IN SUE'S EYES, KEEP HER FROM LOSING HIM! NOW IF I CAN JUST BE A CONVINCING GHOST!

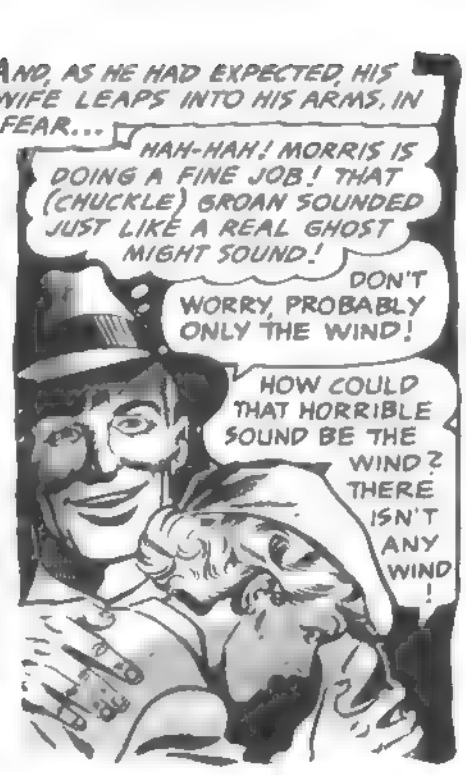
SO, LATER THAT SAME NIGHT, AS JOHN TRENT DRIVES HIS WIFE TO HER MOTHER'S HOUSE...
JOHN! WHY ARE WE GOING THIS WAY? YOU'VE NEVER TAKEN THIS ROAD BEFORE!
HAH! IT'S A SHORT CUT, THAT'S WHY! I WANT TO GET RID OF YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

BUT, ACCORDING TO PLAN--JOHN FINDS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE CAR...
NOW WHAT? BLAST IT, ANYWAY! LISTEN TO HER SPUTTER! MUST BE THAT NEW IGNITION COIL! I NEVER DID LIKE THE WAY IT WORKED!
THIS IS FINE! A MILLION MILES FROM NOWHERE AND THE CAR STALLS!

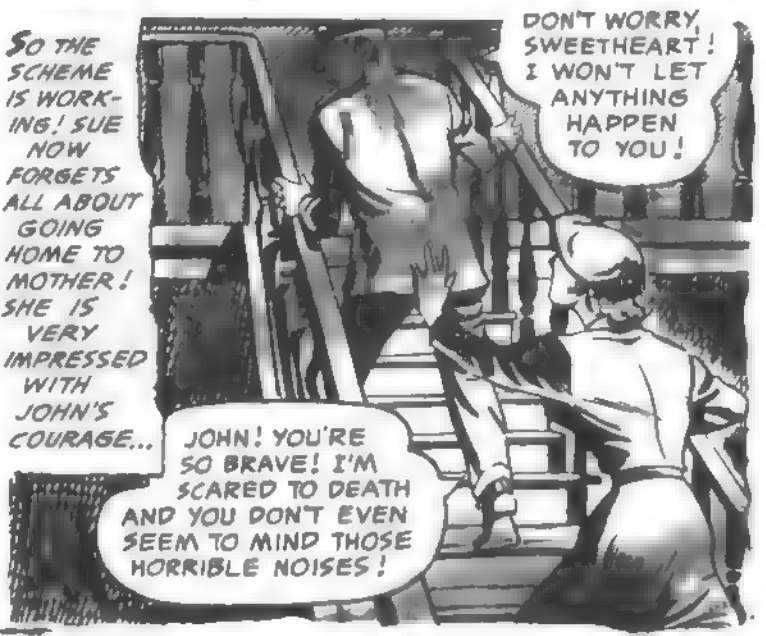
THE CAR GLIDES TO A HALT JUST BEFORE A DESERTED OLD MANSION THAT HAS THE REPUTATION OF BEING HAUNTED...
COME ON, IT'S STARTING TO RAIN! WE CAN TAKE COVER IN HERE UNTIL I FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO!
I D-DON'T KNOW! YOU KNOW THE STORIES ABOUT THIS OLD HOUSE! WASN'T THERE A MURDER HERE OR SOMETHING?

SO, CARRYING OUT HIS PLAN TO TEACH SUE A LESSON, JOHN TRENT PUSHES OPEN THE CREAKING DOOR...
YES, I THINK A MURDER WAS COMMITTED HERE! SO WHAT? YOU BELIEVE IN GHOSTS?
I--I DON'T KNOW! I JUST KNOW THAT I DON'T LIKE IT HERE!

SUDDENLY...
WHOOOOEEEEE!
JOHN! LISTEN! W-WHAT WAS THAT?
HUH! I DON'T KNOW...


AND, AS HE HAD EXPECTED, HIS WIFE LEAPS INTO HIS ARMS, IN FEAR...
HAH-HAH! MORRIS IS DOING A FINE JOB! THAT (CHUCKLE) GROAN SOUNDED JUST LIKE A REAL GHOST MIGHT SOUND!
DON'T WORRY, PROBABLY ONLY THE WIND!
HOW COULD THAT HORRIBLE SOUND BE THE WIND? THERE ISN'T ANY WIND!

JOHN! WHERE ARE YOU GOING! DON'T YOU DARE LEAVE ME ALONE!
I'M GOING UPSTAIRS AND SEE IF IT REALLY IS A GHOST! I'M NOT AFRAID, EVEN IF YOU ARE! BUT I'M CURIOUS!
OHHHHHHHH!


SO THE SCHEME IS WORKING! SUE NOW FORGETS ALL ABOUT GOING HOME TO MOTHER! SHE IS VERY IMPRESSED WITH JOHN'S COURAGE...
DON'T WORRY, SWEETHEART! I WON'T LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO YOU!
JOHN! YOU'RE SO BRAVE! I'M SCARED TO DEATH AND YOU DON'T EVEN SEEM TO MIND THOSE HORRIBLE NOISES!

BUT, AS THEY REACH THE TOP OF THE STAIRS, JOHN GETS A VERY NASTY SHOCK...
L--LOOK! A MAN! HIS LEGS ARE STICKING OUT OF THAT DOOR! HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S D-DEAD!
HUH! Y-YES! HE DOES LOOK DEAD!
GREAT SCOTT! I DIDN'T COUNT ON THIS!

AND THE MAN IS DEAD! WORSE, THE BODY IS THAT OF MORRIS, JOHN'S FRIEND..
EEEEEEEK! JOHN! T-THAT'S MORRIS SLATTERY! B-BUT HOW..
I DON'T KNOW! B-BUT IT SURE ENOUGH IS MORRIS! AND HE'S VERY DEAD!

THEN SUE BEGINS TO SUSPECT SOMETHING FISHY...
WHAT'S GOING ON, JOHN TRENT? WHAT WAS MORRIS DOING HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE? WAS THIS SOME KIND OF A JOKE?
Y-YES! B-BUT IT'S NO JOKE NOW! WE'VE GOT TO CALL THE POLICE!

W--WE WANTED TO SCARE YOU, DEAR! TO KEEP YOU FROM LEAVING ME! YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I REALLY LOVE YOU! BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS AT ALL! WHO COULD HAVE KILLED HIM!
L-LET'S GET OUT OF THIS HORRIBLE PLACE!

SUDDENLY, FROM BEHIND THEM, THERE IS A TERRIBLE CACKLING LAUGH...
JOHN! LOOK OUT! THAT OLD WOMAN...
HUH! W-WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT AXE?
HEH-HEH-HEH! YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH!

I KILLED YOUR FRIEND THERE... AND NOW I'M GOING TO KILL YOU! WITH THIS SAME AXE! JUST THE WAY I KILLED ALL THE OTHERS!

SUE, TERRIFIED OUT OF HER WITS, RUNS FOR THE DOOR...
JOHN! RUN-- RUN! SHE'S INSANE! HURRY!
GO AHEAD! SAVE YOURSELF! I'LL BE ALL RIGHT! I'LL HOLD HER UNTIL YOU GET TO THE CAR, THEN I'LL JOIN YOU!

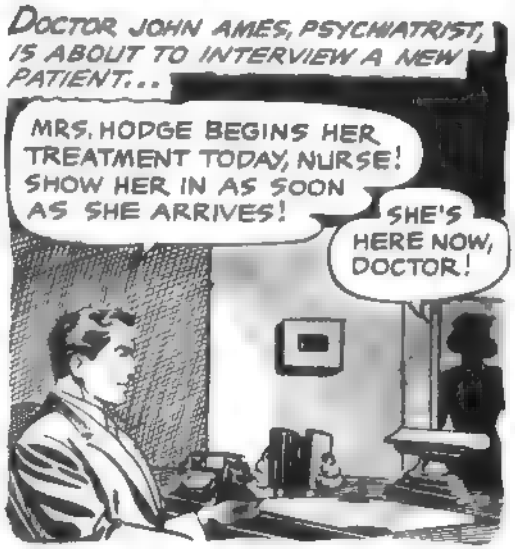
BUT SUE SLIPS ON ONE OF THE CRUMBLING OLD STAIRS...
EEEEEEEK! F-FALLING! OHHHHHHH!

AND GOES CRASHING DOWN, AS A HORRIBLE SCREAM RINGS OUT FROM THE ROOM, ABOVE...
OH, NO, PLEASE-- GAAAAAA!
AHHHHHH!
THERE IS A SNAPPING SOUND, AS THE WOMAN'S FRAGILE NECK IS BROKEN IN TWO...
OHH--MY HEAD! THE BLOOD--- YAAAAAA!
HEH-HEH--THOUGHT YOU COULD GET AWAY, DID YOU!
AND THEN A TERRIBLE SILENCE DESCENDS ON THE OLD HOUSE! IN THE GORY ROOM ABOVE...
HEE-HEE-- DEAD AS A DOORNAIL! CHOPPED HIM UP JUST LIKE THE OTHERS! NOW I'LL LOOK AROUND FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO KILL! AND PEOPLE ALL (CHUCKLE) THINK I'M CRAZY!
BUT THERE IS A SUDDEN WAIL OF SIRENS IN THE NIGHT, AND OUTSIDE...
HO-HO--THE POLICE AFTER ME AGAIN! THEY ALWAYS KNOW WHERE TO LOOK, CURSE THEM!
CAREFUL NOW, BOYS! YOU KNOW HOW CRAZY SHE IS!
AND...
EASY DOES IT, GRANNY! GIVE ME THAT AXE! THERE'S A NICE OLD LADY!
TAKE YOUR FILTHY HANDS OFF ME! I'M NOT GOING BACK TO THAT PLACE!
COME ALONG NOW--YOU KNOW YOU HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE ASYLUM!
LATER, AFTER THE BODIES HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO THE MORGUE-- AND THE OLD WOMAN RETURNED TO THE LUNATIC ASYLUM...
TRY TO FIGURE THAT ONE, HUH? WHAT ON EARTH WERE THOSE PEOPLE DOING IN THAT OLD HOUSE?
WE'LL NEVER KNOW! BUT THE OLD LADY, SHE'S DIFFERENT! SHE MAKES A HABIT OF GOING TO THAT HOUSE! EVERY TIME SHE ESCAPES FROM THE ASYLUM, SHE GOES THERE!
SHE MURDERED HER HUSBAND THERE YEARS AGO, THEN WENT INSANE! NOW SHE THINKS HER HUSBAND IS STILL ALIVE, AND LIVING IN THAT HOUSE! SHE ALWAYS GOES BACK TO KILL HIM! IF OTHER PEOPLE GET IN THE WAY-- WELL, YOU KNOW!
The End

MOST OF US, WHO WALK IN THE BRIGHT SUNSHINE OF LIFE, SUSPECT NOTHING OF THE HORRORS THAT LIE JUST BEYOND THE EDGE OF DARKNESS — THE MURK OF THE PIT, WHERE FETID MISTS HANG LIKE SHROUDS FOR DAMNED SOULS, AND DEMONS MOAN IN THE ETERNAL NIGHT! BUT FOR THOSE WHO KNOW, FOR THOSE WHO HAVE MADE THE TERRIBLE JOURNEY INTO THE UNKNOWN REALMS OF THE SUPERNATURAL, THERE IS ONLY EVERLASTING TERROR! FOR THEY KNOW THAT

THERE ARE SUCH THINGS AS

VAMPIRES



SO... HELLO, MRS. HODGE! COME IN, PLEASE!
JUST MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE AND WE'LL HAVE A LITTLE CHAT!
THANK YOU, DOCTOR! I DO HOPE YOU CAN HELP ME!
IT TOOK A LOT OF COURAGE TO COME HERE, DOCTOR! I HAD GREAT DIFFICULTY IN TAKING THIS STEP!
SUPPOSE YOU TELL ME ABOUT IT! JUST WHAT IS IT THAT TROUBLES YOU?
WELL, AS YOU MAY KNOW, I AM IN PICTURES! AND LATELY I'VE BECOME TYPE CAST—THEY SEEM TO LET ME PLAY NOTHING BUT HORROR ROLES! I'VE BEEN A VAMPIRE IN MY LAST FIVE PICTURES! AND...
SUDDENLY THERE IS A HORRIBLE TRANSFORMATION IN THE WOMAN...
GREAT SCOTT—YOUR FACE! Y-YOU'RE CHANGING...
YES—NOW YOU SEE! I—(UGH)—KEEP CHANGING INTO A—(GASP)—VAMPIRE! A REAL VAMPIRE! AND THEN I WANT...
I WANT BLOOD! I MUST HAVE IT OR I'LL GO MAD! YOUR BLOOD—ANYBODY'S BLOOD! I—ARRRRRGGGG—
GOOD GRIEF—SHE'S COMING AFTER ME!
MRS. HODGE! YOU—BUT WAIT A MINUTE! SHE'S FAINTING, PASSING OUT JUST AS SHE WAS ABOUT TO ATTACK ME!
I—I WANT—UHHHHHHHH-

YES, SHE'S OUT COLD! A VERY STRANGE CASE INDEED—I'D CALL IT HYPER-INDUCED VAMPIRISM! PROBABLY NOT A TRUE VAMPIRE, BUT THE TRAITS ARE THERE, AND THE MOVIE ROLES SHE PLAYS BRING THEM TO THE SURFACE!

LATER...
I—WHERE—OH, I KNOW! IT—IT HAPPENED AGAIN!
YES, MRS. HODGE, BUT DON'T WORRY! TRY TO REMAIN CALM! I THINK I CAN HELP YOU!

HELP ME? OH, HOW I HOPE SO! IT'S BEEN SO HORRIBLE—WHEN I HAVE THOSE FITS I'M A RAVING MANIAC! I—I'M NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT I DO!
OF COURSE NOT! BUT SUCH THINGS CAN BE CURED, AND I'M GOING TO PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO YOUR CASE!

BUT THE CURE WILL BE LONG AND EXPENSIVE! AND YOU'LL REQUIRE ABSOLUTE REST AND QUIET! SO I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU TO A LITTLE PRIVATE SANITARIUM OF MINE! FAR AWAY FROM THE CITY!

LATE THAT NIGHT THEY DRIVE THROUGH THE DESOLATE BERNADINO MOUNTAINS..
NOT MUCH FARTHER NOW, MRS. HODGE! JUST OVER THE CREST THERE!
OHH—IT'S SO DARK AND LONELY HERE! I'M A LITTLE FRIGHTENED!

NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF! SEE, THERE AHEAD! THAT'S MY PLACE! WE'LL PUT YOU RIGHT IN NO TIME HERE!
IT LOOKS SO GLOOMY! DON'T YOU REALLY THINK THAT IN A CASE LIKE MINE I, WELL, SHOULDN'T THE SURROUNDINGS BE MORE CHEERFUL?

I—I DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO LIKE IT HERE AFTER ALL, DOCTOR! PERHAPS I MADE A MISTAKE! MAYBE WE HAD BETTER GO BACK...
NONSENSE, MRS. HODGE! YOU'RE IN A BAD WAY, YOU KNOW! YOU MUST HAVE TREATMENT AT ONCE, AND THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO GET IT!

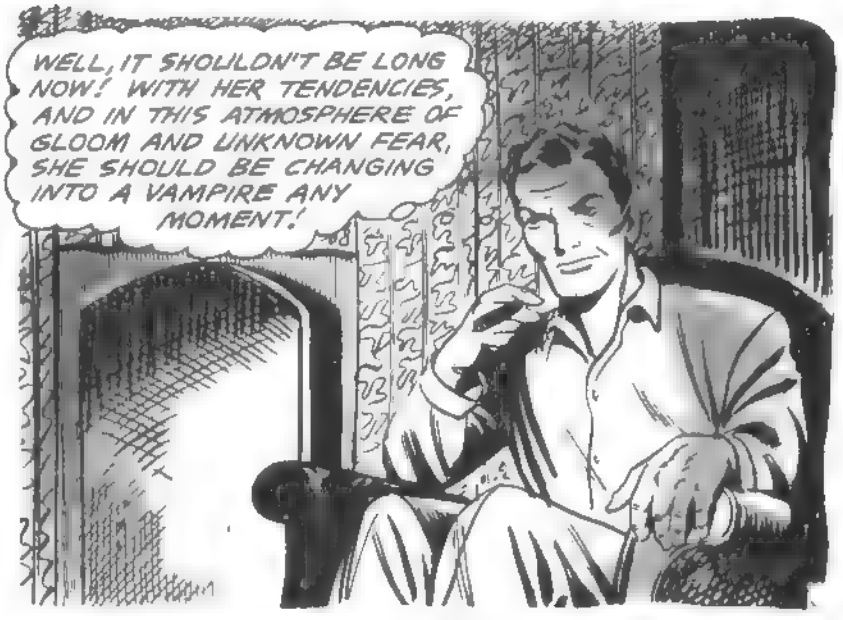
THE DOOR SLOWLY CREAKS OPEN...
GOOD EVENING, DOCTOR! I SEE WE HAVE ANOTHER-PATIENT!
YES, IGOR! THIS IS MRS. HODGE! SHOW HER TO HER ROOM AT ONCE!
UGHHH— WHAT A M-MONSTER! WHAT SORT OF A PLACE IS THIS?

GOOD NIGHT, MRS. HODGE! SEE YOU IN THE MORNING!
THIS WAY, PLEASE! YOU'RE ON THE TOP FLOOR!
GOOD N-NIGHT, DOCTOR!

LATER, AS THE DOCTOR SITS IN HIS STUDY...
SEE HER IN THE MORNING, EH? HAH-HAH! UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, I'LL SEE HER LONG BEFORE MORNING!

STILL LATER...
GET HER ALL FIXED UP, IGOR?
YES, DOCTOR, JUST AS YOU INSTRUCTED! AND THE HOUSE IS EMPTY! I SENT ALL THE OTHERS AWAY AFTER YOU TELEPHONED ME!

GOOD! AND NOW HERE ARE YOUR ORDERS! GO TO BED AND STAY THERE! UNDERSTAND—NO MATTER WHAT YOU HEAR, STAY IN YOUR ROOM!
I WILL DO SO, DOCTOR! GOOD NIGHT!


WELL, IT SHOULDN'T BE LONG NOW! WITH HER TENDENCIES, AND IN THIS ATMOSPHERE OF GLOOM AND UNKNOWN FEAR, SHE SHOULD BE CHANGING INTO A VAMPIRE ANY MOMENT!

THE MOMENTS SLIDE PAST ON STEALTHY LITTLE FEET! THE OLD HOUSE CREAKS AND SOMEWHERE A CLOCK TICKS WITH A DEADLY MONOTONY! AND STILL THE DOCTOR WAITS AND LISTENS! THEN...
AHH—AT LAST! I THINK I HEAR HER ON THE STAIRS! THAT NEXT TO LAST STEP ALWAYS CREAKS JUST LIKE THAT!

COME IN, MY DEAR MRS. HODGE! I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU FOR AN HOUR! YOU'RE VERY LATE! BUT NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE...

AGRRRRR-AHHHHHHHH—
I'LL KILL YOU! I—WANT—YOUR—
NOT SO FAST, MY DEAR! I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT, EXACTLY, BUT YOU WON'T GET IT! YOU'VE TURNED INTO A VAMPIRE AGAIN AND YOU WANT TO FEAST!

I'LL GET IT, TOO! OH, HOW MY FANGS WANT TO BE AT YOUR THROAT! YOU WON'T ESCAPE ME THIS TIME!
THEN COME CLOSER—A LITTLE CLOSER!

HA—HAH—FOOL! YOU DON'T EVEN STRUGGLE! YOU KNOW IT'S USELESS!
ALL WRONG! I SAID YOU WERE AN INDUCED VAMPIRE, NOT A NATURAL ONE!

WHILE I AM—A REAL VAMPIRE! AND SO I'M THE STRONGER! HA-HAH-HAH! NOW WHO WINS? HEE-HEE-HEE-HEE...
Y-YOU—A VAMPIRE, TOO! AND YOU'RE GOING TO—OH, NO...

OH, YES! HO-HO-HO-HO-HO! AND NOW, MY DEAR...
EEEEEEKKK—OHHHHH—AHHHHHH—
The End

GREEN HORROR

WHAT WAS IT, THIS HORROR? VEGETABLE? MINERAL? ANIMAL? OR JUST A FIEND OUT OF THE LOWER DARKNESS? IT HAD THE CUNNING AND PATIENCE OF DEATH ITSELF AS IT WAITED FOR ITS HELPLESS VICTIMS! IT STRUCK AND STRUCK AGAIN! AND IN THE END IT PUT ITS THORN-SPIKED ARMS AROUND A WOMAN IT LOVED IN AS GRUESOME A DEATH SCENE AS EVER HAPPENED! FOR IT WAS **THE JEALOUS CACTUS...**

GEORGE AND MARTHA THORTON ARE DRIVING HOME AFTER A TRIP TO OLD MEXICO, WHEN SUDDENLY MARTHA GETS AN IDEA...

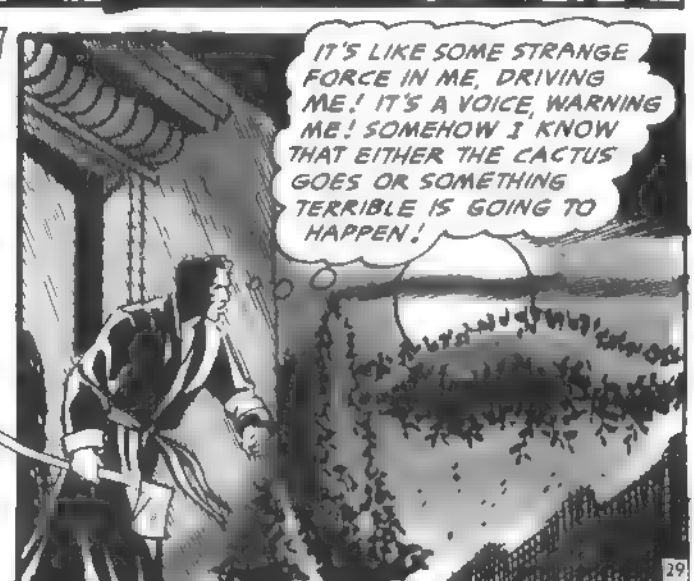
BUT THE CACTUS DOES GROW AND TO GEORGE IT BEGINS TO LOOK ODDLY LIKE A MAN! THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT IT THAT REVOLTS HIM AND FILLS HIM WITH LOATHING...
FILTHY THING! I HATE IT! I KNOW I'M BEING SILLY, BUT I CAN'T HELP IT! I SIMPLY HATE THAT OBSCENE PLANT!

SUDDENLY HE CAN CONTROL HIMSELF NO LONGER.
NOW IS MY CHANCE, WHILE MARTHA ISN'T AROUND! I'LL CUT THE THING INTO A THOUSAND PIECES! SHE'LL BE ANGRY BUT I CAN MAKE IT UP TO HER! I'LL GET HER THAT NEW COAT SHE'S BEEN WANTING...

BUT AT THAT MOMENT...
GEORGE THORNTON! DON'T YOU DARE DESTROY MY CACTUS! PUT THAT HOE DOWN THIS MINUTE OR I'LL NEVER SPEAK TO YOU AGAIN! OH! OF ALL THE MEAN THINGS!
HUH! NOW MARTHA, HONEY! I WAS-- I MEAN...

AND SO ON AND SO ON...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S COME OVER YOU LATELY! YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A FOOLISH CHILD ABOUT THAT CACTUS! IT'S ALMOST AS IF YOU WERE JEALOUS OF IT! HOW CAN YOU HATE A MERE PLANT SO MUCH?
ALL RIGHT, SO I'M CRAZY! I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT MYSELF! BUT I HATE IT! I BOIL WITH RAGE EVERY TIME I LOOK AT IT!

THAT NIGHT WHEN HIS WIFE IS ASLEEP GEORGE DECIDES THAT HE CAN STAND IT NO LONGER...
I'VE GOT TO DO IT! I'LL NEVER REST UNTIL I DO! I'LL GET THE AXE OUT OF THE SUMMER HOUSE AND CHOP THAT CACTUS DOWN RIGHT NOW! MARTHA WILL PROBABLY LEAVE ME, BUT I CAN'T HELP MYSELF!


IT'S LIKE SOME STRANGE FORCE IN ME, DRIVING ME! IT'S A VOICE, WARNING ME! SOMEHOW I KNOW THAT EITHER THE CACTUS GOES OR SOMETHING TERRIBLE IS GOING TO HAPPEN!

THE CACTUS SEEMS TO GLEAM EVILLY IN THE MOONLIGHT! IT ALMOST SEEMS TO BE MOCKING THE MAN...

NOW I'LL PUT AN END TO YOU ONCE AND FOR ALL! I'LL CHOP YOU UP AND BURN THE PIECES! THEN LET MARTHA RAVE--- AT LEAST SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO BRING YOU BACK!

THEN IT HAPPENS! THE CACTUS MOVES WITH A TERRIBLE LIFE OF ITS OWN AND SNATCHES THE SHARP-BLADED AXE FROM THE MAN'S HAND...

H-HUH! IT--IT'S ALIVE! YAAAAA! IT'S GOING TO KILL ME!

AS THE FRIGHTENED MAN, SCREAMING INSANELY, RUNS FOR HIS LIFE, THE CACTUS LIFTS ONE SPINE COVERED ARM! THE AXE IS RAISED, BALANCED, POISED...

THERE IS A HORRIBLE WHISTLING, RUSTLING SOUND AS THE AXE SAILS THROUGH THE AIR, STRAIGHT AND TRUE, HEADED FOR THE FLEEING MAN...

IT HATES ME! AIIIEEEE!

I'LL CALL THE POLICE, HAVE THEM COME AND DESTROY THE THING! MAYBE THEY'LL THINK I'M NUTS, EVEN LOCK ME UP WHEN I TELL THEM IT'S ALIVE, BUT I DON'T CARE!

I'LL--- UHHHHHH-- GNNNNN!

AND THAT IS THE WAY THAT MARTHA FINDS HIM THE NEXT MORNING! COLD, DEAD, STIFF--WITH THE AXE STILL FIRMLY EMBEDDED IN HIS SKULL! SHE DOES NOT EVEN GLANCE AT THE CACTUS...

OHH--G-GEORGE! EEEEEEE!

AND WHEN THE POLICE COME...

I'M AWFULLY SORRY, MRS. THORNTON! BUT IT'S PRETTY OBVIOUS WHAT HAPPENED! YOUR HUSBAND MUST HAVE HEARD A PROWLER AND WENT TO INVESTIGATE! HE TOOK THE AXE ALONG, BUT THE PROWLER MUST HAVE TAKEN IT FROM HIM AND KILLED HIM!

POOR GEORGE! AND ONLY YESTERDAY I QUARRELED WITH HIM!

BUT TIME PASSES--AND TIME HEALS! SEVERAL MONTHS LATER ANOTHER MAN COMES INTO THE WIDOW'S LIFE! MEAN-TIME THE CACTUS GROWS LARGER AND BIDES ITS TIME...
YES, BRENT, HERE IS MY CACTUS PLANT! ISN'T IT A BEAUTY! BUT POOR GEORGE NEVER LIKED IT!
HMMM--CAN'T SAY THAT I BLAME HIM! I DON'T THINK I LIKE IT MUCH EITHER!

BUT WE WON'T QUARREL ABOUT A CACTUS, DARLING! JUST TELL ME THAT YOU'LL MARRY ME-- AND TELL ME IT'LL BE SOON!
OH, BRENT! I DO LOVE YOU! BUT I DON'T WANT TO BE RUSHED! THERE'S PLENTY OF TIME!

BUT THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE SO WRONG, DARLING! YOU KNOW I HAVE TO LEAVE FOR SOUTH AMERICA SOON ON BUSINESS! PLEASE, MARTHA, MARRY ME!
ALL RIGHT, DEAR! OF COURSE! WHENEVER YOU SAY!

HOW CAN EITHER ONE OF THEM SEE THE EVIL LEER ON THE "FACE" OF THE CACTUS?...
WAIT HERE IN THE GARDEN, BRENT, AND I'LL GO FIX US A COOL DRINK!
OKAY, SWEETHEART! WE CAN DRINK A TOAST TO OUR MARRIAGE!

LEFT ALONE FOR A MOMENT, BRENT STARES AT THE CACTUS AND FEELS HIS SPINE BEGIN TO TINGLE...
AND YOU--THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT YOU! SOMETHING VILE AND EVIL AND WICKED! AND ALTHOUGH I KNOW IT'S CRAZY, I'VE GOT A FEELING THAT YOU DON'T LIKE ME--THAT YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU!

WITH A HORRIBLE SCREECHING SOUND OF LIVING ROOTS BEING TORN FROM THE GROUND, THE CACTUS POUNCES ON THE AMAZED MAN...
HUH! N-NO! GAAAAA!

MERCILESSLY THE ENRAGED CACTUS SQUEEZES THE THROAT OF THE DYING MAN--SQUEEZES AND SQUEEZES AND SQUEEZES UNTIL AT LAST THE BODY OF BRENT IS LIMP IN THE THORNY FINGERS...

YAAA--C'CAN'T B--BREATHE! UNNNNNNN!

TOSSING THE DEAD BODY ASIDE, THE CACTUS SWAYS AND TUGS AT ITS OWN ROOTS, RIPPING THEM FROM THE EARTH IN A FRENZY! ON THE ALMOST HUMAN FACE, DIABOLICAL NOW, THERE IS AN EXPRESSION OF MURDEROUS INTENT...

WHILE IN THE KITCHEN MARTHA, HER HEART SINGING WITH JOY, IS FIXING THE COOL DRINKS, UNAWARE OF THE TABLEAU OF HORROR THAT HAS JUST BEEN ENACTED IN THE GARDEN...

I'M GLAD BRENT WAS SO INSISTENT! I ALWAYS INTENDED TO MARRY HIM ANYWAY!

SUDDENLY...

BRENT? COME IN, DARLING! WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU KNOCKING FOR?

KNOCK! KNOCK!

THE DOOR SWINGS OPEN AND THERE STANDS--THE CACTUS...

EEEEEKKKK!

THE CACTUS PULLS HER INTO A JEALOUS EMBRACE, CRUSHING HER AGAINST ITS SHARP SPINES! AND AT THE LAST MOMENT MARTHA REALIZES THE TRUTH! IT WANTS HER...

OH, NO! IT ISN'T TRUE--IT CAN'T BE--HELP! AAAAHH!

BUT IT WAS TRUE--AND WHEN THE POLICE FOUND THEM LATER...

FIGURE THIS ONE MIKE! A CACTUS PLANT RIPS OUT ITS ROOTS AND WALKS, GRABS THE WOMAN AND CRUSHES HER TO DEATH! IT CAN'T BE...

CAN'T BE IS RIGHT, ONLY IT IS! AND THE MAN DEAD TOO! BROTHER, HOW WE EVER GOING TO EXPLAIN THIS ONE TO THE COMMISSIONER?

The End

IN THE SHADOW OF THE SPHINX, IN THE EXOTIC AND MYSTERIOUS LAND OF THE ANCIENT PHARAOHS, THERE WAS THE LAIR OF THIS EVIL SHE THING! AMID THE RUINED SPLENDOR OF VANISHED PEOPLES AND CIVILIZATIONS SHE DWELT, WAITING, BIDING HER TIME! AND THE ONCE SACRED VULTURES OF THE TEMPLES WAITED PATIENTLY, KNOWING THEY WOULD SOON BE GORGING ON THE ROTTEN FLESH OF HER VICTIMS! FOR SHE WAS HALF WOMAN, HALF THING FROM THE LOWER DEPTHS! SHE WAS ALL THE EVIL NIGHTMARES THAT MEN HAVE DREAMED SINCE THE VERY BEGINNING OF TIME! SHE WAS DEATH AND DESOLATION AND ETERNAL DARKNESS, BORN OF FEAR AND HORROR AND TERROR! SHE WAS ALL THIS AND MORE—FOR SHE WAS BEAUTIFUL WITH AN UNEARTHLY LOVELINESS THAT WAS WORSE THAN THE FOULNESS OF HER BLACK SOUL WHICH THE BEAUTY MASKED! SHE WAS—**THE CRAWLER...**

WEB of the WIDOW

MATT TAYLOR, HEAD OF A MUSEUM EXPEDITION WHICH IS EXPLORING NEAR THE ANCIENT PYRAMIDS OF EGYPT, DOES A FOOLISH AND CARELESS THING IN HIS EXCITMENT OVER A NEW FIND...

LATER, AS TAYLOR LIES DYING AND HIS ASSOCIATES LOOK ON HELPLESSLY...

WE'VE TRIED EVERYTHING! NO SERUM WILL WORK AGAINST THE BITE OF A TEMPLE SPIDER! I'M AFRAID THE POOR DEVIL IS DONE FOR.

A ROTTEN SHAME, TOO! HE HAD A BRILLIANT FUTURE BEFORE HIM! HE WAS ONE OF THE BEST IN HIS FIELD!

UHHHHH— OHHHHH—

SUDDENLY

YOU DESPAIR TOO SOON, GENTLEMAN! I THINK *I* CAN SAVE YOUR FRIEND!

HUH! B-BUT WHO ARE YOU? WHERE DID YOU COME FROM? AND WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT YOU CAN HELP?

OOOOHHHH—

THE EXOTIC STRANGER KNEELS BESIDE THE COT AND PUTS HER VIVID RED MOUTH TO THE WOUND...

NEVER MIND HOW I SHALL DO IT— BUT I WILL! YOUR FRIEND WILL BE COMPLETELY RECOVERED IN A DAY OR TWO!

AND SURE ENOUGH, A FEW DAYS LATER...

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DID IT, SUTHINA, BUT I'M GRATEFUL! AND NOT ONLY FOR SAVING MY LIFE—YOU SEEM TO KNOW SO *MUCH* ABOUT THIS COUNTRY, EVEN ABOUT *MY* PROFESSION! I'D LIKE TO GIVE YOU A JOB...

A JOB? NOT A WORD I FULLY UNDERSTAND! BUT I WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE THIS PLACE FOR A TIME! WOULD THAT BE POSSIBLE?

SO THEY STRIKE A BARGAIN...

I WILL RETURN TO YOUR COUNTRY AND WORK WITH YOU! PERHAPS I *CAN* BE OF SOME SERVICE—BUT I MUST MAKE CERTAIN CONDITIONS! IF YOU WILL AGREE TO THEM...

CONDITIONS, EH? WELL, I DON'T THINK WE'LL HAVE ANY TROUBLE GETTING TOGETHER, SUTHINA! OF COURSE YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THAT I WORK FOR A FOUNDATION, AND THE MONEY DOESN'T EXACTLY GROW ON BUSHES!

BUT ON THE DAY OF SAILING, MATT TAYLOR FINDS THAT SUTHINA IS CONCERNED WITH OTHER THINGS THAN MONEY...

YOU HAVE MANY OF THE STRANGE CRATES, MISSY! BUT I AM THE BEST DRAGOMAN IN ALL EGYPT! I HAVE TAKEN GOOD CARE OF THEM!

YOU HAD BETTER, BAHI, OR I'LL FLAY YOU ALIVE! NOW SEE THAT NONE OF THEM ARE BROKEN OPEN!

HMM— WONDER WHAT SHE'S GOT IN THOSE CRATES! BUT I PROMISED I WOULDN'T ASK!

THE TRIP HOME IS UNEVENTFUL ENOUGH, THOUGH TAYLOR DOES PUZZLE ABOUT THE MYSTERIOUS CRATES! BUT HE KEEP HIS PROMISE AND DOES NOT QUESTION SUTHINA ABOUT THEM...
NOW SUTHINA, YOU MUSTN'T MIND IF MY WIFE SEEMS A LITTLE CURT AT TIMES! I'M AWAY A LOT, OF COURSE, AND THEN SHE'LL BE SURPRISED TO SEE YOU! SHE MIGHT WONDER ABOUT US!
HAH-HAH! SHE NEED HAVE NO FEAR! I AM NOT INTERESTED IN YOU IN THAT WAY, MATT!
TAYLOR'S FEARS ARE JUSTIFIED! THE TWO WOMEN DISLIKE EACH OTHER FROM THE VERY BEGINNING...
THIS IS SUTHINA, MOLLY! SHE IS GOING TO HELP ME IN THE LAB, AND SHE'LL BE STAYING HERE FOR A TIME!
HELLO! IF MATT WANTS YOU TO STAY, I'M SURE THERE IS A GOOD REASON!
HOW DO YOU DO, MRS. TAYLOR!
LATER...
THIS IS WHERE WE'LL DO MOST OF OUR WORK! I'VE GOT A NEW RESTORER THAT I WANT TO TRY ON THESE OLD MANUSCRIPTS WE FOUND!
YES, THE HEROD PALIMPSEST! BUT NOW I MUST SEE IF MY CRATES HAVE ARRIVED!
TROUBLE BEGINS...
BUT I INSIST THAT THE CRATES BE STORED IN MY ROOM! I INSIST! I MUST BE WITH THEM AT EVERY POSSIBLE MOMENT!
BUT YOU CAN'T! YOU'LL UPSET MY HOUSE! THESE HORRIBLE OLD CRATES...
NOW, MOLLY, I PROMISED SUTHINA...
BUT SUTHINA WING! AND ONE DAY NOT LONG AFTERWARD...
EEEEEEKKKKK— A HORRIBLE, LOATHSOME BLACK SPIDER! IN MY HOUSE! OWWW- I'LL KILL IT! I HATE SPIDERS!
SUDDENLY SUTHINA RUSHES IN...
FOOL! IMBECILE! LEAVE IT ALONE! HOW DARE YOU TOUCH ANYTHING OF MINE? TAKE THAT!
Y-YOURS? THE SPIDER IS YOURS? OWWWWW!
SPLAT
YES! MINE! IT IS A PET! I HAVE HAD IT FOR YEARS! NEVER TOUCH IT AGAIN, YOU UNDERSTAND?
A PET! Y-YOU PICK A SPIDER UP AND FONDLE IT! YOU ARE INSANE! I'LL SEE THAT YOU LEAVE THIS HOUSE AT ONCE!

UNNERVED BY THE SCENE WITH SUTHINA, MOLLY TAYLOR GOES TO HER ROOM TO SULK!
OH, HOW I HATE THAT WOMAN! I DIDN'T WANT HER TO STAY HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE, BUT NOW SHE MUST GET OUT AT ONCE! SPIDERS, UGH! THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE AND UNCANNY ABOUT HER...
SUDDENLY...
OH — SPIDERS! SO M-MANY OF THEM, COMING INTO MY ROOM! AFTER ME! B-BUT WHERE COULD THEY HAVE COME FROM?
EEEEEEEEKKK!
M-MORE OF THEM! HUNDREDS! I C-CAN'T GET TO THE D-DOOR! THEY'VE GOT M-ME TRAPPED!
AAAAAAAAA—
AFTER THE TERRIBLE SCREAMS DIE AWAY, THE DOOR SOFTLY OPENS, AND THERE IS SUTHINA...
SO, MY LITTLE BLACK PETS, YOU HAVE HAD YOUR MEAL! GOOD! SOON I WILL HAVE MINE! BUT WE MUST NOT LET OUR UNSUSPECTING MATT FIND US LIKE THIS! HE WOULD NOT LIKE IT, NOT AT ALL!
SO WE'LL JUST HAVE TO TIDY UP A BIT! HA — YOU DIDN'T LEAVE MUCH OF HER, DID YOU? BUT I UNDERSTAND — THIS WAS YOUR FIRST MEAL IN MONTHS!
YOU CAN'T EAT BONES, MY PETS, BUT FIRE CAN! I'LL JUST PUT THE — (CHUCKLE) — REMAINS OF MRS. TAYLOR IN THE FURNACE! NOT A TRACE WILL BE LEFT! POOR MATT — I'M REALLY DOING HIM A FAVOR! SHE WAS A SHREW!

BUT THAT NIGHT WHEN MATT TAYLOR RETURNS HOME, HE IMMEDIATELY DETECTS A STRANGE ODOR IN THE HOUSE...
MOLLY? SUTHINA? WHERE THE DEVIL IS EVERYBODY? WHAT GOES ON AROUND HERE? HEY, THAT'S A FUNNY SMELL! HMMM, NOT SO FUNNY AFTER ALL! SOMETHING BURNING IN THE FURNACE!
STRANGE! WE'VE GOT AN INCINERATOR FOR BURNING RUBBISH! AND THERE'S SOMETHING I DON'T LIKE ABOUT THIS SMELL! IT SEEMS VAGUELY FAMILIAR — LIKE THE BURNING GHATS BY THE INDUS RIVER! I KNOW— SCORCHED BONES!
TAYLOR RAKES OUT THE ASH IN THE FURNACE AND GETS THE NASTIEST SHOCK OF HIS LIFE...
MY HEAVEN! A HUMAN SKULL! F-FRESHLY BURNED! BUT WHO— AND WHY?

FRANTICALLY HE DASHES UPSTAIRS...
MOLLY? WHERE ARE YOU, MOLLY? OH, SHE'S NOT IN HER ROOM, NOT ANYWHERE IN THE HOUSE! BUT THAT C-CAN'T BE HER SKULL! IT CAN'T! I WON'T BELIEVE IT! BUT MAYBE SUTHINA WILL KNOW SOMETHING!
SUTHINA!
YOU CALLED ME, MATT?
I CERTAINLY DID! WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON AROUND HERE? WHAT'S THAT SKULL DOING IN THE FURNACE? WHERE IS MOLLY?

I'M GOING TO SEARCH YOUR ROOM, SUTHINA! YOU'RE ACTING VERY STRANGELY! IF YOU'VE DONE ANYTHING TO MY WIFE...
HA! I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO HER! BUT ENTER, BY ALL MEANS! I WANT YOU TO ENTER!
GAAAAA— A WEB! I'M CAUGHT!
YES, YOU ARE CAUGHT! TRAPPED IN MY WEB! YOU POOR FOOL! I ALWAYS INTENDED THIS FATE FOR YOU! HA-HA-HA-HA—

GREAT GODFREY, SUTHINA! W-WHAT IS THIS? W-WHAT KIND OF A FIEND ARE YOU? WHY DID YOU MURDER MOLLY?
I, YOU FOOL WHO IS ABOUT TO DIE, AM THE QUEEN OF THE TEMPLE SPIDERS!

I SAVED YOUR LIFE ONCE, BECAUSE MY VENOM WAS STRONGER THAN THAT OF THE SPIDER WHO BIT YOU! BUT NOW I HAVE FASTED LONG ENOUGH, AND YOU HAVE MADE ME SAFE! MY ENEMIES WILL NEVER FIND ME IN AMERICA!
AAAAAAAAA—

AND BEFORE I KILL YOU, MY STUPID FRIEND, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I HAVE IN THE CRATES! MY SUBJECTS— THOUSANDS OF MY TEMPLE SPIDERS! SHIPPED IN THEIR NATIVE EARTH! THEY ATE YOUR WIFE! BUT I WILL EAT YOU!
YIIIIIIIIIII—

SOMETIME LATER, AS TWO MEN INNOCENTLY APPROACH THE SILENT AND SINISTER HOUSE...
OKAY, MY BOY, NOW GO IN THERE AND KNOCK THE LADY OF THE HOUSE OFF HER FEET! YOU CAN'T MISS! JUST REMEMBER YOUR TRAINING AND YOU'LL MAKE YOUR FIRST SALE IN NO TIME! THE LITTLE MARVEL NEVER MISSES!
GEE, MR. CANTWELL, I DON'T KNOW! I'M AWFULLY NERVOUS! B-BUT I'LL TRY! I SURE WANT TO MAKE GOOD!

SO... GOOD AFTERNOON, MA'M! MY NAME IS FLY, CHRISTOPHER FLY! NOW I HAVE HERE...
YOUR NAME IS WHAT — FLY? OH, DO COME IN! STEP RIGHT INTO MY HOUSE...

HIS NAME IS FLY! OH, NO! THIS IS TOO GOOD! THIS IS TERRIFIC! HIS NAME IS, HA-HA-HO-HO-HEE—FLY! AND HE'S COMING INTO MY PARLOR!
GEE, KIND OF A FUNNY DAME!
The End

The GHOST WRITER TELLS A TALE OF ...

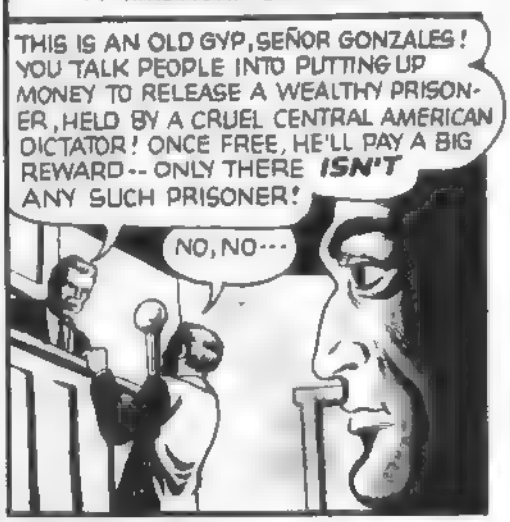
ZOMBIE VENGEANCE

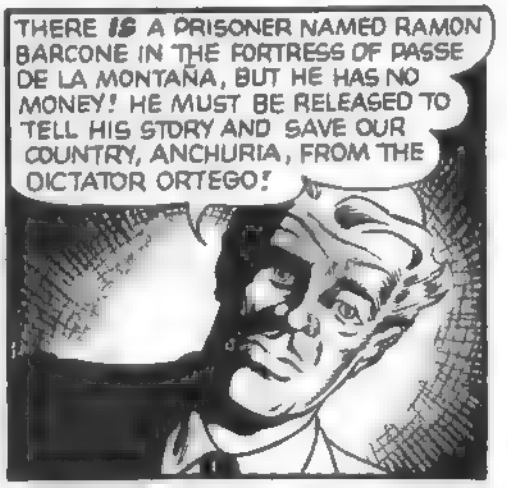
Know what a ghost writer is? He's a hack who bats out yarns for some other person whose name appears as the author... it's a tough job, ghost writing... as they say in the trade, you have to stay chained to your typewriter to turn out the work...

Well, I was a ghost writer of that type... I still AM a ghost writer, or the ghost OF a writer, and for the first time I'm knocking out a story of my own!

Nice to have a by-line after all these years, even if I do happen TO BE DEAD!... But let's get into the story...

IT BEGAN IN A NEW YORK POLICE PRECINCT WHERE I'D GONE TO GET MATERIAL FOR AN ARTICLE... A DAPPER LITTLE MAN WHO SPOKE ENGLISH WITH A SPANISH ACCENT WAS BEING CHARGED WITH A TIMEWORN SWINDLE...





I WAS FAMILIAR WITH THE OLD POLITICAL PRISONER RACKET, BUT I SENSED A STORY AND A CHANCE TO WRITE IT, SO I BUTTONHOLED GONZALES WHEN HE LEFT...

MY NAME IS RALPH BAIRD, SEÑOR, AND I'M A GHOST WRITER! IF I COULD TALK TO THE PRISONER YOU MENTIONED---

SORRY, SEÑOR, BUT HE DOESN'T SPEAK ENGLISH! BUT THERE IS A CHARMING SEÑORITA, ELENA RUBIO, WHO CAN TRANSLATE FOR YOU!

WAIT, NOW! THAT SEÑORITA GAG IS JUST PART OF THE OLD SWINDLE!

NO, NO! YOU DO NOT TRUST ME, BUT I TRUST YOU! TAKE THIS MONEY, GO TO ANCHURIA, AND FIND ELENA RUBIO! SHE WILL TAKE YOU TO MEET RAMON AND HEAR HIS STORY!

THERE I WAS, HOLDING $1000 CASH AS AN ADVANCE ON A WRITING JOB I HADN'T EVEN BARGAINED FOR! BY THE TIME I SNAPPED FROM MY AMAZEMENT, GONZALES WAS GONE...

SEÑOR GONZALES! WAIT! I CAN'T TAKE THIS MONEY UNTIL I KNOW MORE---

AS GONZALES HURRIED AWAY, A CAR SWUNG IN FROM THE NEXT CORNER AND CAUGHT UP WITH HIM... MACHINE GUNS BLAZED AND RATTLED...

POW!

POW!

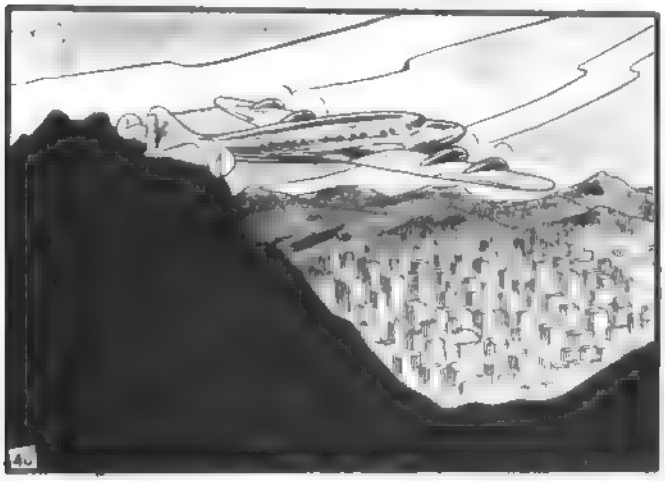
RAT-TAT-T-T-T

AND BY THE TIME I REACHED GONZALES, HE WAS DEAD, AND THE ASSASSINS HAD MADE THEIR GETAWAY...

GOT ANY IDEAS AS TO WHO THOSE KILLERS WERE, BAIRD?

NONE! BUT I MAY FIND AN ANSWER IN THE REPUBLIC OF ANCHURIA! IF I DO, I'LL LET YOU KNOW! **I'M GOING THERE!**

SO, A FEW DAYS LATER, I ARRIVED IN PASSE DE LA MONTAÑA, THE CAPITAL CITY OF ANCHURIA, WHERE ORTEGA RULED SUPREME!



AH, SEÑOR, YOU ARE A WRITER! YOU MUST COME WITH US!

YOU MEAN I'M UNDER ARREST?

NO, NO, SEÑOR! IT IS JUST THAT OUR LEADER, ORTEGO, LIKES WRITERS!

AT THE PALACE I MET THE DICTATOR HIMSELF! DID HE SUSPECT MY PURPOSE? THERE WAS ONLY ONE ANSWER-- TO OUTSMART HIM!

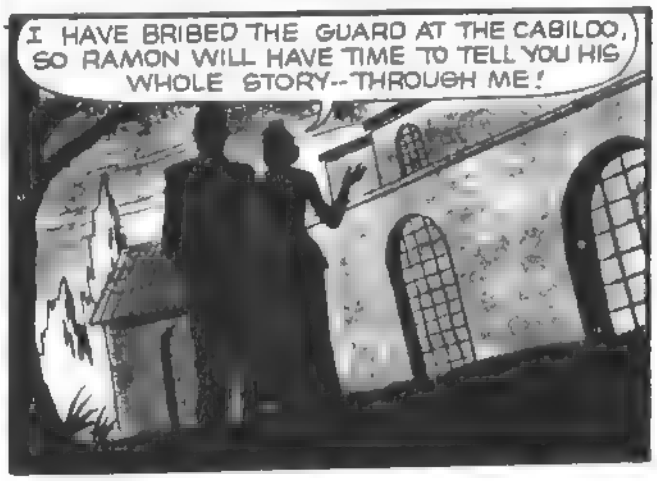
YES, YOUR EXCELLENCY, I WANT TO WRITE ABOUT ANCHURIA! IF I HAD YOUR PERMISSION, I WOULD VISIT IMPORTANT CITIZENS, AND GET THEIR OPINIONS!

PERMISSION? YOU HAVE IT, AMIGO MIO! I SHALL PROVIDE A MILITARY ESCORT TO ACCOMPANY YOU!

NATURALLY, THE IMPORTANT CITIZENS WOULD BE ON ORTEGO'S SIDE, SO HE WASN'T TAKING ANY CHANCES... BUT I HAD A FURTHER PLAN IN MIND...

ONCE INSIDE THE RUBIO RESIDENCE, I BRIBED A SERVANT...

ELENA LED ME FROM THE PATIO THROUGH A MAZE OF BACK STREETS...



WHAT A STORY OF INTRIGUE AND MURDER IT WAS! WHOEVER ORTEGO HADN'T BOUGHT UP, HE'D KILLED OFF, IN ORDER TO BECOME DICTATOR... BUT RAMON KNEW A WAY TO BEAT HIM!

NEAR THE SUMMIT OF MOUNT DIABLO, WE REACHED A ROCKY CAVERN...

YOU'LL FIND THE VOODOO SCROLL IN THERE! BRING IT OUT WHILE I KEEP WATCH!

IN THE CLUTCH OF A BRAZEN FIRE IDOL, I FOUND THE MYSTIC SCROLL...

I'LL OPEN THIS VOODOO SCROLL AND FIND OUT WHAT THIS HOKUM IS ALL ABOUT!

I READ THE WORDS OF THE STRANGE CURSE..

VIO VIVAVI VOXO

THEN, AS I LEFT THE CAVERN, I WAS GREETED BY THE FLARE OF A VOODOO FIRE AND THE BEAT OF TOMTOMS!

BOOM BOOM

AND SUDDENLY, I FOUND MYSELF A PRISONER...

THEN BEFORE MY ASTONISHED EYES, A HUMAN FIGURE, WRITHING LIKE A SNAKE, AROSE FROM BESIDE THE FIRE TO PRESIDE OVER THE VOODOO RITUAL!

ELENA RUBIO!

YES, YOU FOOL! I AM THE QUEEN OF THE VOODOO TRIBE! THAT IS WHY I BROUGHT YOU HERE!

IN A TONE THAT HISSED WITH ALL HER SNAKISH VENOM, ELENA INTRODUCED ME TO THE OTHER BIG-WIG OF THE VOODOO MOB!

FOR RAMON, I MAY HAVE OTHER USE! FOR YOU, NONE! NOW MEET THE KING OF THE VOODOO CLAN!

ORTEGO!

WHO ELSE? WHY SHOULD VOODOO FIGHT AGAINST ME? IT WAS THROUGH MY VOODOO FOLLOWERS THAT I GAINED SUPREME POWER IN ANCHURIA! BUT I MADE FOOLS LIKE YOU AND RAMON BELIEVE THE OPPOSITE!

WITH THAT, ORTEGO PLUCKED THE VOODOO SCROLL FROM MY GRASP

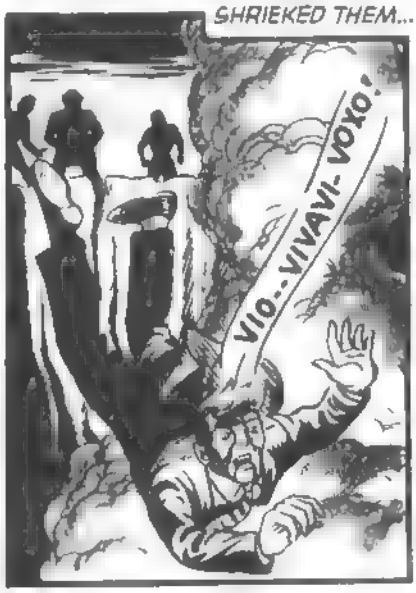
AND AS HE HANDED IT TO ELENA, I SUDDENLY BROKE FREE...

AND SNATCHING BACK THE SCROLL, I FLUNG IT IN THE VOODOO FIRE...

IMMEDIATELY, I WAS OVERWHELMED BY THE SAVAGE VOODOO TRIBE, WHO BEAT ME INTO A STUPOR...

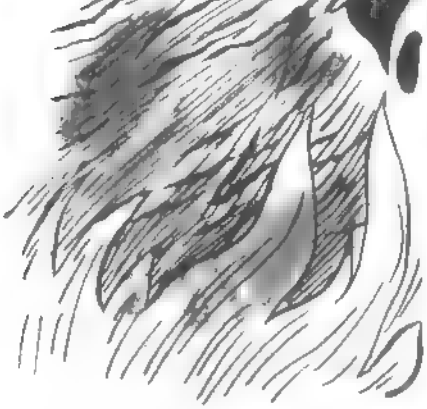
BUT AS MY SENSES DIMMED, I COULD HEAR THE CRACKLE OF THE BURNING SCROLL ABOVE ORTEGO'S CRISP TONES...

THROUGH MY MIND KEPT BEATING THOSE STRANGE WORDS FROM THE SCROLL AND IN MID-AIR, I SHRIEKED THEM...



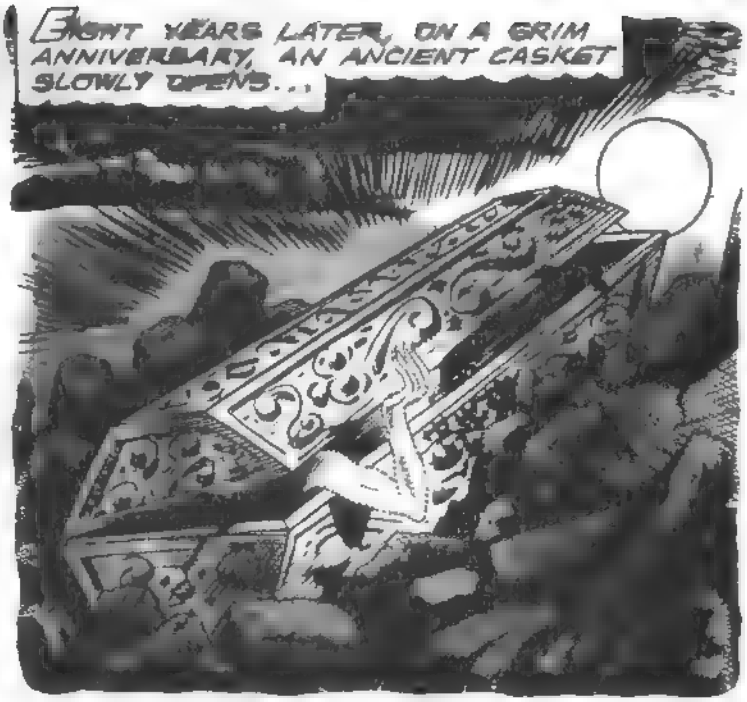
I WAS GOING DOWN, DOWN, DOWN INTO THE POOL...
AND AT THE BOTTOM, I HEARD THE HISS OF WATER, SEEPING THROUGH THE ROCK...
THEN, STRANGELY, MY GHOSTLY SELF GROPED TO THE CRATER EDGE TO VIEW THE SCENE BELOW...
THE VOODOO RITUAL WAS AT ITS HEIGHT, WHEN, SUDDENLY, THE MIGHTY MOUNTAIN RUMBLED...
KRUMBMBMBN
AND AN AVALANCHE OF LOOSE VOLCANIC ROCK POURED DOWN THE SLOPE, OVERWHELMING ALL BEFORE IT!
RUMBLERROOMR
SO DIED ORTEGO, THE TYRANT DICTATOR OF ANCHURIA...
WHILE IN A JAIL CELL IN PASSE DE LA MONTAÑA, A PRISONER NAMED RAMON BARCONE LAUGHED -- AND LAUGHED...
AND AT THE BOTTOM OF THE CRATER POOL, I, THE GHOST OF RALPH BAIRD AM AWAITING NEW CALLS TO DELIVER VOODOO VENGEANCE... A GHOST WRITER, CHAINED TO HIS TYPEWRITER!
VIO--VIVAVI--VOXO! THOSE WORDS WILL COME IN HANDY AGAIN, WHEN NEEDED!
THE END

The WITCH'S CURSE!

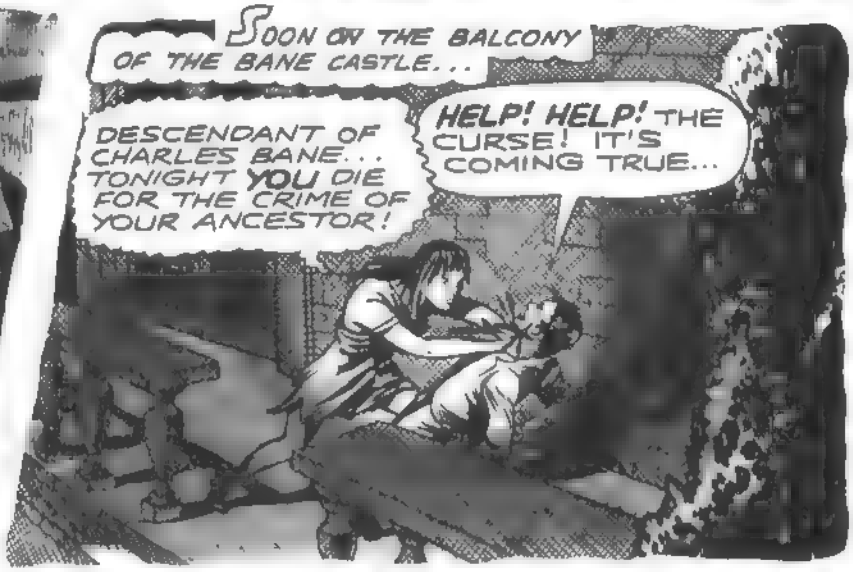


THAT NIGHT...
HER CURSE IS BURIED WITH HER... YET IF HER EVIL SPIRIT SHOULD ESCAPE...
DO NOT FEAR. I KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH WITCHES, YES... EVEN DEAD ONES!
AN EVIL SPIRIT CANNOT ESCAPE THIS CIRCLE OF CONSECRATED EARTH...
AS CENTURIES PASS, THE CASTLE MOULDERS AWAY AND THE FATE OF THE WOLF-GIRL IS LONG FORGOTTEN... UNTIL ONE DAY...
VILLAGE TRANSCRIPT
WAR DECLARED!!
AND ON ANOTHER SPRING NIGHT... IN 1945...
AMERIKANERS COME! QUICK, HANS, DROP THE FULL LOAD... WE'LL BE LIGHTER THEN AND CAN ESCAPE THEM!
WHAT A WASTE! BUT... DOWN THEY GO... JA!

DROPPED AT FRANTIC RANDOM, THE WHISTLING BOMBS CRASH INTO THE OLD RUINS OF BANE CASTLE . .


EIGHT YEARS LATER, ON A GRIM ANNIVERSARY, AN ANCIENT CASKET SLOWLY OPENS . . .

FREE AT LAST! THE FOOLISH RING OF EARTH HAS BEEN BROKEN . . . AND NOW TO FULFILL MY CURSE!


SOON ON THE BALCONY OF THE BANE CASTLE . . .
DESCENDANT OF CHARLES BANE . . . TONIGHT YOU DIE FOR THE CRIME OF YOUR ANCESTOR!
HELP! HELP! THE CURSE! IT'S COMING TRUE . . .

AND LATER . . .
I AM PAMELA BANE AND THIS IS MY COUSIN EDWIN . . . OH, MY POOR FATHER . . .
HIS THROAT! AS THOUGH A WILD BEAST WAS AT 'IM, POOR BLOKE.
I TELL YOU, OFFICER, IT'S THE BANE CURSE COME BACK . . .

I'M GOING TO CALL UNCLE MARTIN. HE'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO . . .
THE FAMOUS GHOST DOCTOR? THAT'S A GOOD THOUGHT, PAM. IF ANYONE CAN HELP, IT WILL BE MARTIN!

LATER...
DEAR PAM... I HEARD WHAT HAPPENED TO BROTHER JOHN.
OH, UNCLE MARTIN—IT'S BEEN SO HORRIBLE...

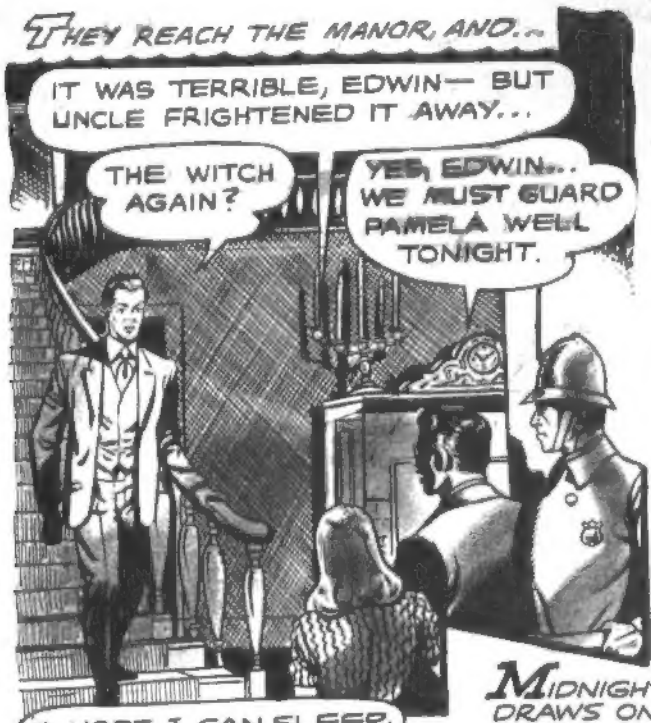
IT'S A TIRESOME RIDE BACK TO THE MANOR, BUT... OHHHH!..
STOP THE CAR! IT'S THE WOLF-GIRL!

LOOKS LIKE MY GHOST DISINTEGRATOR GOES TO WORK RIGHT NOW!

BUT... BACK IN THE CAR...
HELP!... THE WITCH!
HEH-HEH! YOU'LL JOIN YOUR FATHER HEH-HEH!

SAVE ME!
GREAT GUNS! THE CREATURE HAS GOT PAMELA. I MUST ACT FAST.

IT WAS FRIGHTENED OFF THIS TIME... BUT SOMETHING VERY STRANGE HERE... MY DISINTEGRATOR DIDN'T FUNCTION...
OHH!.. LET'S GO BEFORE SHE DECIDES TO COME BACK!


THEY REACH THE MANOR, AND...
IT WAS TERRIBLE, EDWIN— BUT UNCLE FRIGHTENED IT AWAY...
THE WITCH AGAIN?
YES, EDWIN... WE MUST GUARD PAMELA WELL TONIGHT.

I'LL STATION MYSELF BY PAMELA'S DOOR—
I'LL RELIEVE YOU AT MIDNIGHT, UNCLE!

I HOPE I CAN SLEEP, BUT...
DON'T FEAR. GUARDS ARE POSTED OUTSIDE AND I'LL WATCH YOUR DOOR.

MIDNIGHT DRAWS ON...
HMM...NO SIGN OF THE WEREWOLF..

WELL — NO APPEARANCE OF OUR PECULIAR GHOST YET!

BUT PAMELA, UNABLE TO SLEEP, OPENS THE DOOR AND...
OHH..UNCLE! BEHIND YOU!

FOOL...THIS IS YOUR END!
THIS DOESN'T FEEL LIKE ANY GHOST!

CONTINUED ON BACK COVER

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DIE—YOU MURDERING SON OF A MURDERING ANCESTOR... DIE!
AHGGG...

NOW I SHALL FIND REST AND—PEACE—

DON'T LOOK, PAM! IT WAS EDWIN— BUT IT'S TOO LATE NOW!
OH— NO!

I'M AFRAID YOUR COUSIN KILLED YOUR FATHER. EDWIN WOULD HAVE KILLED US ALL FOR THE BANE INHERITANCE.

YES, DEAR, I BELIEVE THE BANE'S GHOST WILL BE AT PEACE NOW— IT WAS A CRUEL THING THAT AN INNOCENT GIRL BE ACCUSED OF WITCHERY AND BURNED— BUT THERE WAS NO LESS EVIL IN EDWIN'S KILLING FOR GAIN... SO THAT IN THE END— THE UNJUST WAS DESTROYED BY THE VICTIM OF INJUSTICE...
The End